



2nd District Milwaukee County Supervisor

Willie Johnson, Jr.

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**MILWAUKEE
COUNTY**

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

CHAIRMAN

County Board Personnel Committee

Milwaukee County Pension Study Commission

Milwaukee County Disadvantaged Business
Enterprise Steering Committee

Wisconsin County Mutual Insurance
Corporation (*President*)

VICE-CHAIRMAN

Community Insurance Corporation
Board of Directors

MEMBER

County Board Finance Committee

County Board Judiciary, Law Enforcement,
and General Services Committee

Milwaukee County Commission for
Persons with Disabilities

Milwaukee Community Justice Council
Executive Committee
(*Evidence Based Decision Making Policy Team*)

Milwaukee County Local Emergency
Planning Committee

Wisconsin Counties Association
Board of Directors (*Past President*)

Milwaukee Child Welfare
Partnership Council

Three Harbors Council of Boy Scouts of America
Executive Committee and Board Member

National Forum for Black Public Administrators

Economics Wisconsin Board of Directors

Milwaukee County Historical Society
Board of Directors

Dear Neighbors,

FALL 2022

It has been an exciting seven months serving District 2. As a result of redistricting, I am fortunate to represent a few new neighborhoods, in addition to representing many familiar faces. It is an honor and a privilege to serve residents of the Riverwest, Rufus King, Lincoln Park, and Garden Homes neighborhoods, as well as sections of the City of Glendale and Village of Brown Deer.

My office has quickly gotten to work pushing for policies that best serve both Milwaukee County as a whole and the 2nd District in particular. I am proud to have been appointed to chair the Committee on Personnel by Chairwoman Marcelia Nicholson. Since taking over the committee, we have accomplished a great deal, including aligning compensation with peer counties and restructuring benefits for incoming employees. These initiatives have made it easier for department heads to attract and retain high quality employees, which result in your county government working more efficiently and effectively.

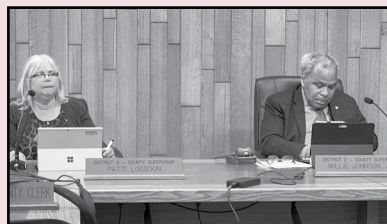
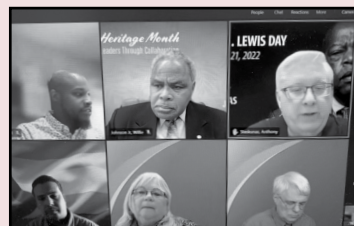
I am most appreciative of the support given by residents, organizations and associations in the 2nd District. I value your communications, questions and suggestions about Milwaukee County government and hope you and your families benefit from the many services Milwaukee County provides.

Constituents and neighborhood groups are encouraged to contact my office to discuss any issues and concerns or to schedule a meeting.

Call my office at **(414) 278-4233**, or email me at **Willie.Johnson@milwaukeecountywi.gov**.

Thank you,

Willie Johnson, Jr. - Milwaukee County Supervisor, District 2



Clockwise from top left: 1. Sup. Johnson, Jr. chairing the County Board's Committee on Personnel. 2. Sup. Johnson, Jr. participating in a Judiciary, Law Enforcement, and General Services Committee meeting virtually. 3. Sup. Johnson, Jr. applauding County Executive Crowley signing affordable housing legislation. 4. Sup. Johnson, Jr. voting on legislation to provide better benefits for County employees.

Milwaukee County Recommended Budget Avoids Major Service Cuts, But Fiscal Cliff Looms

Milwaukee County is in the midst of another budget season. On Thursday, September 29 County Executive David Crowley presented his \$1.37 billion 2023 Recommended Budget.

Direct revenue such as golf fees, beer garden sales, and venue rentals make up the largest portion of revenues at 27.6%. Property taxes make up 22.8%. Other major sources of funding in this budget include sales taxes, federal and state revenues, and bond and note proceeds.

This year's budget was aided by some good fortune in a couple of areas which averted major cuts and allowed for some targeted investments that align with the County's strategic plan. Robust growth in the county's current 0.5% sales tax helped stave off service cuts. \$25 million in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds filled a gap in mass transit funding for this year, though the County Executive did include reduced service for routes 34, 52, 88, and 92.

While major service cuts have been avoided for another year, without a sustainable, long-term solution to its growing structural deficit Milwaukee County will have no local dollars for services such as parks, transit, or many of the human services residents rely on. Milwaukee County continues to work alongside the Move Forward MKE coalition to pursue a 1 percent local option sales tax, to be paired with property tax relief. The 1 percent sales tax is the county's best option to ensure the future of these services.

The County Board's budget process is guided by guiding principles of racial equity, preparation, collaboration, sustainability, and decorum. These guiding principles help create a constructive, focused, and respectful process that ensures all voices are heard.

Meeting President Biden



Supervisor Johnson had the opportunity to meet President Joe Biden at Labor Fest this past September.

Milwaukee County Commits \$45 Million to Fund New Milwaukee Public Museum



This rendering depicts the new Milwaukee Public Museum building.

Earlier this year the County Board of Supervisors approved (14-4) a proposal to contribute \$45 million in bonding to finance a new building for the Milwaukee Public Museum (MPM).

The museum has secured \$40 million in funding from the State of Wisconsin and is seeking \$5 million in federal grants. It plans to cover the remaining costs for the \$240 million project with a \$150 million private fundraising campaign.

Milwaukee County owns MPM's collections, including four million objects and specimens, which the museum cares for them. The resolution adopted the County Board allows Milwaukee County to save \$2.5 million in operating support each year.

The current building has \$50 million in deferred maintenance, which caused the Accreditation Commission at the American Alliance of Museums to delay MPM's accreditation, risking the museum's ability to seek some federal grants and host traveling exhibits.

The new museum, which MPM has indicated will be called the Wisconsin Museum of Nature and Culture, will be located at the northeast corner of Sixth and McKinley streets in downtown Milwaukee. In July, the museum released renderings of the new building designed by the firms Ennead Architects and Kahler Slater.

MPM is the most visited museum in the state with 550,000 visitors from every Wisconsin county, including 155,000 school-agers from 44 counties. It hosts 287 outreach programs experienced by 25,000 people across the state each year.

MPM plans to begin construction late next year and complete the project in spring 2026.

**Get up-to-date information on FREE
Milwaukee County Attractions at:**



county.milwaukee.gov/freedays

Milwaukee County Medical Examiner Working Through Increased Homicides, Drug Overdoses

The Milwaukee County Medical Examiner's Office (MCMEO) is responsible for providing accurate, timely, comprehensive, and compassionate death investigations for reportable deaths in Milwaukee County. The office investigated 9,589 deaths in 2021 and conducts forensic autopsies for coroners across southeast Wisconsin.

Increasing homicide and drug overdose deaths in Milwaukee County are making the work of the MCMEO more challenging than ever. After seeing 1,450 homicides in 2021 the office has handled 1,101 homicides as of October of 2022. The MCMEO handled 644 drug overdoses in 2021 and has seen approximately 518 as of October 2022. These high levels of preventable deaths put a strain on our Medical Examiner staff.

Eighty percent of confirmed drug deaths in Milwaukee County in 2022 (as of October) involved either fentanyl alone or in combination with other substances.

To bolster its work around drug overdose deaths, the MCMEO has worked to secure grant funding from numerous sources. It received a Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program (COSSAP) grant in 2021 to fund one laboratory technician position. It also received a 2022 COSSAP grant in collaboration with the City of Milwaukee Health Department to acquire new instruments and fund a forensic chemist position.

Construction on a new Forensic Science Center located at the Milwaukee Regional Medical Center campus is planned to begin in fall 2023, with the facility opening in spring 2025. It will house the MCMEO along with the county's Office of Emergency Management and the state's Department of Justice Milwaukee Crime Lab.



Supervisor Johnson celebrated Juneteenth Day with Chairwoman Marcelia Nicholson (center) and Supervisor Peter Burgelis.

Amid Summer Travel Surge, MKE Launches Expedited Security Screening Lanes

Milwaukee Mitchell International Airport (MKE) launched its expedited security screening lanes on August 9, 2022. MKE is the first airport in Wisconsin to contract with CLEAR for these services and the 45th across the U.S. The launch is expected to create 34 jobs and generate more than \$2.6 million in local economic activity.



"Our partnership with CLEAR will elevate the customer experience for Milwaukee travelers while showcasing the innovation we continue to cultivate at the airport," said Milwaukee International Airport Director Brian Dranzik. "We're confident passengers will love the new technology and take advantage of the opportunity to travel faster through the airport."

Members use CLEAR's network of dedicated lanes to verify their identity with their eyes or fingers, replacing the need to take out their wallet and driver's license. After verification, a CLEAR Ambassador escorts members through the dedicated lane and directly to TSA physical security, reducing the amount of time spent waiting in line at the security checkpoint.

"We are so excited for the opportunity to provide Milwaukee passengers with a more seamless, predictable travel experience," said CLEAR CEO Caryn Seidman-Becker. "MKE has been a wonderful partner, and we're excited to expand into our 45th airport and create more than 30 local jobs."

"CLEAR's partnership with Milwaukee Mitchell International Airport is a strong example of our ongoing efforts to bring jobs and innovation to Milwaukee County," said Milwaukee County Executive David Crowley. "Their investment in the Airport and in the Milwaukee community at large is just one more reason to choose MKE every time when traveling to or from Wisconsin."



A kiosk for enrollment in CLEAR, MKE's expedited security screening.

"Milwaukee Mitchell International Airport continues to deliver when we ask them to find innovative ways to attract passengers," said Milwaukee County Supervisor Willie Johnson Jr. "It is phenomenal to see Milwaukee County keep up with other major airports in providing the latest technology

to their customers. I'd like to thank Director Brian Dranzik, as well as CLEAR for making this partnership a reality."

CLEAR Plus is an opt-in membership that provides access to CLEAR's expedited security lanes for roughly \$16 a month.



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Energy Assistance is Available

Through the Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program, qualified Milwaukee County residents can receive a one-time annual payment to make your heating and electric bills more affordable!



1. See if you qualify.

Go to **KeepWarmMKE.org** to check income guidelines and see if you qualify. 175,000 county residents will. You may also qualify for services like furnace repair, weatherization and crisis benefits.

2. Make an appointment or complete your application online.

- Apply October 1 - May 15.
- Visit **KeepWarmMKE.org** or
- Call **270-4MKE (4653)**. Dial 211 for after-hours help.

3. Due to COVID-19, all appointments are conducted by phone.

A team member will call you at your scheduled appointment time to process your application.

CLIC COUNTY LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION CENTER



For legislative files, agendas, minutes and schedules for all Milwaukee County committee and board meetings, please visit the County Legislative Information Center at:

county.milwaukee.gov/CLIC

Service Guide for 2nd District Milwaukee County Residents

2nd District Milwaukee County Supervisor

Willie Johnson, Jr. (414) 278-4232

Aging and Disability Resource Center (414) 289-6874

Airports

Mitchell International Airport (414) 747-5300

Timmerman Airport (414) 461-3222

Child Support Enforcement (414) 615-2593

Clerk of Circuit Court (414) 278-5362

County Clerk (414) 278-4067

County Executive (414) 278-4211

County Treasurer (414) 278-4033

Courts

Civil Division (small & large claims) (414) 278-5362

Criminal Division (414) 278-4538

Children's Court (414) 257-7700

Dept. of Health and Human Services (414) 289-6897

District Attorney's Office (414) 278-4646

Election Commission (414) 278-4060

Emergency/Public Safety

Sheriff (non-emergency) (414) 278-4788

TDD Emergency (414) 278-5252

Burn Center Hotline (24 hours) (414) 272-2876

Emergency Management (24 hours) (414) 257-4709

Suicide Prevention/Intervention

Mental Health Crisis (414) 257-7222

Fraud Hotline (414) 93-FRAUD

House of Correction (414) 427-4700

Jury Services

General Information (414) 278-4469

Reserve Juror Message (414) 985-6000

Marcus Performing Arts Center (414) 273-7121

Marriage Licenses/Passports/Fishing Lic. (414) 278-4067

Medical Examiner (414) 223-1200

Milwaukee Art Museum (414) 224-3200

Milwaukee County Historical Society (414) 273-8288

Milwaukee County Parks

Boerner Botanical Gardens (414) 525-5600

General Information (414) 257-7275

Parks Hotline (414) 257-5100

Golf Office (414) 257-8024

District 2 Parks

AC Hanson Park (414) 352-7502

Algonquin Park (414) 352-7502

Brown Deer Park (414) 352-7502

Estabrook Park (414) 964-0064

Havenwoods State Forest (414) 527-0232

Kern Park (414) 964-0064

Lincoln Park (414) 964-0064

Meaux Park (414) 964-0064

Smith Park (414) 461-0839

Wyrick Park (414) 461-0839

Milwaukee County Zoo (414) 771-3040

Milwaukee County Sports Complex (414) 281-2694

Milwaukee Public Museum (414) 278-2702

Municipality

Brown Deer (414) 371-3000

Glendale (414) 228-1700

Milwaukee City Hall/Common Council (414) 286-2221

Milwaukee Night Number (414) 286-CITY (2489)

Office of Persons with Disabilities (414) 278-3932

Register in Probate (414) 278-4444

Register of Deeds (414) 278-4021

Rent Assistance (414) 278-4902

Transit System

Bus Routes/Schedules/Fares (414) 344-6711

Customer Comments (414) 937-3218

Transit Plus (414) 343-1700

UW-Extension (414) 256-4600

Veterans Services (414) 266-1234

Victim/Witness Service (414) 278-4667